

Children - Institutional care

**THE
PROTESTANT
HOME
FOR
CHILDREN**

INDIAN HEAD
SASKATCHEWAN



**QUESTIONS
& ANSWERS**

388

THE ORANGE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY
OF SASKATCHEWAN

1961 ANGUS ST. - REGINA, SASK.

Objects of the Society

(According to the Act of Incorporation)

The objects of the Society shall be the creating and maintaining of one or more suitable institutions in the Province of Saskatchewan, to be known as the Orange Homes, for the maintenance, care and education of neglected or dependent children, or such other children as may be entrusted to its care of any age up to eighteen years.

Our Responsibility

To prevent the underprivileged child from becoming a burden on the State or a menace to Society.

To prepare the underprivileged child for life by developing habits that make for beautiful character.

To safeguard the Protestant faith of the child committed to us.

To prepare each child for the practical duties of life by giving the necessary technical training.

To help in carrying out the will of God—
"It is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

The Homes

The Homes are located at Indian Head, the grounds comprising twenty-seven acres, on which two Pavilions have been erected to accommodate about seventy children and staff, caretaker's residence, greenhouse and workshop, a recreation and utility building (a gymnasium 60 ft. by 40 ft; playroom for small children; isolation ward; staff rooms; laundry and room for refrigeration and freezing plant; bathrooms, showers, central heating plant;) a 280 ft. tunnel connects all buildings.

The Downing Memorial Orange Home Farm for Boys, comprises 560 acres. A short distance from the Home, bounded on the north side by the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Trans-Canada Highway.

The older boys, 13 years and up, graduate to the Farm where they learn the fundamentals of good farming practice—grain growing, stock raising and mechanics. There is accommodation for twelve to fourteen boys at the Farm Home. They continue to attend school in Indian Head.

Who Are Admitted to the Homes?

This is not an orphanage. It is a home for the underprivileged child.

Any Protestant child who comes under the foregoing category is admitted, provided

they are free from infectious or mental diseases.

An underprivileged child. This means one or both parents dead, and no provision made for maintenance of the child; a child deserted by one or both parents; a child whose parents are unable because of destitution to properly care for the child.

A homeless child. A father or a mother unable to provide a home and proper care of a child, due to the necessity of having to work for a living.

How Young are Children Admitted To the Homes?

The age generally is three years, but exceptions must be made to this rule because of circumstances.

When are Children Demitted From the Homes?

Eighteen years is the age when the Society ceases to be responsible for the care of the child, but in cases where a child requires more time to complete its education, the age limit is extended. When a parent has re-established a home and can assume the proper care of the child or children, the application of the parent for demission is immediately granted.

How Many Children have Passed Through the Homes?

The number is over 600. The longest period a child has been in the Home is fifteen years.

What Provision is Made for the Health of the Children?

The children are under the care of a qualified physician of Indian Head. The Matron gives particular attention to the health of the children.

Education

Religiously: The children attend the Churches and Sunday Schools of which their parents were members or adherents. The whole atmosphere of the Home imparts a deeply religious atmosphere.

Intellectually: The children attend the public and High Schools of Indian Head, and have taken high standing in their examinations. Many have been honor students. The fees for high school students are paid by the members of the Grand Black Chapter of Saskatchewan.

Physically: Through outdoor and indoor sports and games; the boys help with work in the garden, while the girls take part in the care of the Home.

Socially: By engaging in the different forms of community children's activities, and the training given in the Home, the children are developed socially.

Thus the children are receiving the four-fold training which prepares them to go out into the activities of life and become useful citizens of our country.

How are the Homes Administered and Conducted?

A Board of Directors appointed by the Grand Orange Lodges of Saskatchewan L.O.A. and L.O.B.A. The Executive and various standing committees supervise the work between the meetings of the Board.

A full time Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant to the Secretary are employed at Head Office.

The internal management of the Home is in charge of a properly qualified Matron. She is assisted by a staff of nine and a caretaker.

The Farm and Farm Home is in charge of a foreman and two housekeepers.

Does the Society Accept Special Privileges Because of the Act of Incorporation?

The answer is NO! We pay to the Town of Indian Head and the Rural Municipality

of Indian Head No. 156, taxes on our property the same as other citizens, and we expect the same privileges as granted to other tax-payers. Since the Home was founded, we have paid over \$45,000.00 in taxes.

What are Some of the Results of the Work of the Homes?

The answer is in the value to Canada of the large number of boys and girls who have lived in the Homes.

Many of the boys and girls are successful in their life's work--in Her Majesty's services, the professions and business. Many happy homes have been established.

The children's valuation of, and their appreciation for the care and training given them is evidenced by many of them returning regularly to visit the Homes.

If your child were next to need the care of the Homes what would your value of the Homes be?

How are the Homes Financed?

By freewill contributions.

By an annual canvass for funds.

By support of L.O.L. and L.O.B.A. Lodges.

By gifts from friends who believe in and admire the work the Homes are doing for needy boys and girls.

By bequests. Some members and some good friends of the Homes remember the Homes in their wills.

Contributions to the work of the Society are deductible from Income Tax and may be made direct to—

The Orange Benevolent Society of
Saskatchewan

1954 ~~1961~~ Angus Street

Regina, Saskatchewan.

What Do Others Say About the Home?

The Hon. W. J. Patterson, Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan, at the date of opening of the Recreation Hall and Utility Building on September 23, 1953, reviewed the progress of the Orange Home since it was first established in 1923, and said that the creation of the new building was a further tribute to the members of the Orange Association who founded this pleasant sanctuary for homeless children. The Lieutenant-Governor stated that The Orange Benevolent Society of Saskatchewan have operated the Home long enough to prove their worth, and thus have the support and admiration of the public. The Directors and those responsible for the operation of the Home, who give freely of their time and efforts, he said, can feel the satisfaction that they

have made a contribution for the betterment of the boys and girls of Saskatchewan. The tendency nowadays, he said, is for welfare agencies to come under the supervision of governments, and that while he was not critical of the system, he felt that those institutions that operated privately, offered a more sympathetic and human touch than those operated by governments.

The Hon. T. C. Douglas, Premier of Saskatchewan, said, "This is a good time to stop and remember that our greatest wealth is not in mines and oil, and other material resources, but in the boys and girls that will be the citizens of tomorrow." It was true and necessary, he said, that governments play a major role in the work of social welfare, but after the government had done all it could, there remained a vital place for private charity. "I hope," the Premier said, "the day never comes when private organizations like this stop taking part in the work of charity, and thank God there is still a place in this age for people with welfare in their hearts for our boys and girls." The Premier gave the Society great praise for the training and guidance given to the children of the Home. The children are taught and raised in the Protestant faith and have a sound knowledge of British doctrine. The Premier made an appeal to give support to organizations like this, as it will be a sad day indeed if the time comes that we do not have time for such things.

Mr. T. Petty, until recently Principal, Indian Head public school—"The children mingle freely and fully in the various activities of these two schools—(Public and Collegiate). Their records in all departments, whether in the classroom or on the playground is a most worthy one. Their general attitude toward school activities is well above the average."

Rev. James Evans, formerly Minister, Presbyterian Church, Indian Head—"From close observation and a long continued association with the Orange Home, I affirm that, since this is the only strictly Protestant Home in the Province of Saskatchewan, it is not only well worthy of the loyal support of all who profess Protestantism, but rather their bounden duty to see that all needy Protestant children have the opportunity of such healthful, moral, social and religious training afforded by the Home."

D. S. Johnstone, M.D., Regina—"I am delighted altogether with the Home and its management, and sure it is filling a most useful and happy position in caring for these children."

Canada's Greatest Asset—Our Children

*Do you know the loss of Mother,
Perhaps of Father too,
The grief that comes when they are gone
As many others do;
Have you ever felt the yearning
That comes with such a loss,
And the longing for the warm home-life
Instead of pitch and toss.*

*Many little Children
Are left in such a strait,
Their appeal to us to help them
Must never come too late;
The Master's message to the world
("Forbid them not", said He)
Should be engraved on every heart
Strong should our effort be.*

*There is a Home at Indian Head
Where little children come,
Those in distress receive good care
In the atmosphere of home;
The need is growing every day
For extension of this work,
It is a solemn duty
That we must never shirk.*

*Our children are our greatest gift,
They will shortly take our place
And must be cared for, clothed and trained
To enable them to face
The duties of good citizens,
Sound in body, mind and heart,
For God for King and Country
To rightly do their part.*

*The call goes out to each of you
To help in this great Cause,
To give as God has blessed you,
That we may never pause
In helping children to attain
Success, in their own sphere;
And you'll feel you are rewarded
As they progress year by year.*

A.C.S. Aug./44.